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THE BAPTIST Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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No. 30



*Ag Fellowship
to meet Aug. 7
at Central Hills*

The Mississippi Agricultural Development Foundation and Fellowship Meeting will be meeting in joint session Aug. 7, beginning at 10 a.m., at Central Hills Retreat, Kosciusko. Phil and Verlene Thurston, IMB career missionaries to South Asia, will be sharing. The Thurstons began their work in North India and transferred to Bangladesh in 2005 to assist the strategy coordinator for the Tribal Team of Bangladesh.

Fines coming for banned microphones

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP and local reports) — Churches could face six-figure fines if they continue to use wireless microphones that operate within a spectrum the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has set aside for public safety entities.

"Certain wireless microphones have operated in frequencies that are needed for public safety. When these microphones were first designed, the frequencies they used were in between the frequencies that television stations used to broadcast television programs," the FCC explained.

"With the completion of the digital television (DTV) transition on June 12, 2009, television stations no longer use the frequencies between 698 and 806 MHz (the 700 MHz band) for broadcast," the FCC stated. "These frequencies are now being used by public safety entities (such as police, fire, and emergency services) and by commercial providers of wireless services (such as wireless broadband services)."

For instance, if a church is using wireless microphones during a worship service and a microphone which is powerful enough to operate outside the building causes interference to public safety workers communicating via radios, lives could be at risk.

Therefore, as of June 12, anyone using a wireless microphone within the 700 MHz band has been ordered to vacate the frequencies. Violations will be handled on a case-by-case basis, but fines could exceed \$100,000.

"What our Mississippi Baptist churches need to understand is that this is a very serious issue. The 700 MHz band — actually 699-806 MHz — is now to be used solely for emergency services," said Ian Richardson, director of communication services for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and custodian of the board's audio equipment.

"If a church is found in violation of this FCC ruling, the fine could exceed \$100,000. There are no exceptions," Richardson said. "If a church is using wireless frequencies in the 700 MHz band, this should be discontinued immediately. New microphone systems in compliance with FCC regulations must be purchased."

Churches across the Southern Baptist Convention have had to examine their microphone equipment to ensure they aren't in violation of the FCC ban, and in many cases the cost of replacing such equipment has been significant.

"We had to replace a total of 13 microphones that were all within the frequency the FCC wanted to reserve strictly for police and ambulance services and things like that. It cost us about \$13,000 to replace those microphones," said Curtis Brewer, associate pastor of worship and celebration at First Church in Odessa, Texas.

Brewer said he uses at least 20 wireless microphones each Sunday with praise teams, special speakers, the pastor, baptisms, and other components of the worship service "and then from time to time,



INSPECTION TIME — Ian Richardson, communication services director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, checks the data label on a wireless microphone to ensure the device is not operating on a frequency banned by the Federal Communications Commission. The U.S. agency has announced fines of \$100,000 or more for violators of the updated frequency rules. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

when it fits appropriately within the service, we'll go into the congregation with wireless microphones and get people to comment on a particular topic that we've touched on or to lead in prayer at a specific time or to have a testimony from someone who's not physically able to get to the platform, so we just run all over the place with those wireless microphones," Brewer told Baptist Press.

First Church was prepared for the switchover in June because they knew it was coming about a year and a half in advance, Brewer said.

"Once we knew that it was coming, we began to set money aside. When we knew that it was going to cost us this much money, we were able to buy it in sections because not only did you have to get the microphones but we were responsible for getting of course the receivers and the transmitters," Brewer said.

Even though the wireless microphones the church used in the 700 MHz band are of good quality and still work well, they are of no use under the FCC's new regulation.

"I know that there are some in our town that aren't quite as fortunate as we are that have had to totally do away with wireless microphones and go back to cable mikes," Brewer said, "so there are other options instead of having to replace, but we've just been blessed to be able to make the replacements happen."

Churches are advised to determine whether the wireless microphones they

use are in violation of the FCC's ban on the 700 MHz range. Typically, a number followed by MHz appears on the back or side of the receiver, and if it falls between 698 and 806 MHz, it needs to be set aside.

If church leaders are unsure whether their equipment meets the new standard, they can visit fcc.gov/cgb/wirelessmicrophones to view a manufacturer's list of microphones and whether they comply.

One indication that a microphone is in violation of the ban is if a church is experiencing interference when using the wireless device. "Typically, if they're receiving interference, then they're also causing it," said Matthew Nodine of the FCC's Wireless Communications Bureau.

Kent Margraves of Sennheiser Electronic Corporation, a microphone manufacturer, told Your Church, a publication of Christianity Today, that in most cases churches don't use a large number of wireless microphones each week.

If they are only needed for larger events such as concerts and pageants, churches may consider renting wireless devices for those occasions if money is not available to replace the entire collection.

"Quality rental suppliers will have up-to-date equipment," Margraves said.

For more information, Mississippi Baptist churches can contact Richardson at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3290 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 290. E-mail: irichardson@mbcb.org.

Commercials promoting Scientology cult

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The Church of Scientology has launched a series of 60-second ads on major cable channels that tell little about its theology and, the ads' tagline notwithstanding, could even be mistaken for an ad for Christianity.

The three commercials have aired on such channels as CNN and can be viewed on YouTube. The ads have been labeled as well-done even by those outside of Scientology, which is listed as a cult by the Southern Baptist Convention's North American Mission Board.

"Are the ads effective? They're certainly professional," Seth Stevenson, who rates ads for the left-leaning website *Slate.com*, wrote. "You've got to be impressed with the cinematography and editing. The high-budget gloss alone will likely sway a few viewers to visit Scientology's content-rich Web site."

Founded in 1954 by science fiction author L. Ron Hubbard, Scientology's views on sin, salvation, and Christ are unbiblical. Yet none of that is clear in the ads, which instead focus on general themes about life.

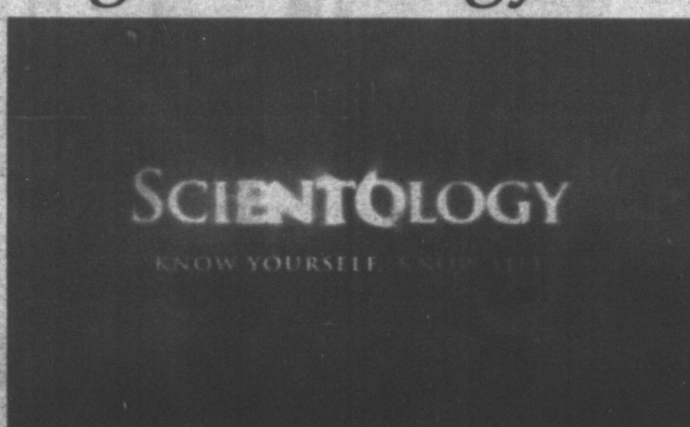
"We're all looking for it. Some of us have been looking our whole lives," a male narrator says in one of the ads, while short snippets of a person gazing out a window, a college student sitting in a class, and a person walking down a library aisle, are shown.

Everyone looks inquisitive. "Some think they can buy it. Some think they can wear it. Some travel the world in search of it. Most don't even know what they are looking for, but we all feel it. That aching desire... that unexplainable emptiness that can only be filled by one thing... The Truth."

The tagline is then shown: "Scientology: Know yourself ... Know life."

That particular ad is labeled The Search on Scientology's YouTube channel. The other two ads are labeled You and Life.

"Yes, Scientology has beautiful commercials and lofty promises," Tal Davis, interfaith evangelism coordinator for the North American Mission Board, wrote in a Baptist Press column. "But the truth is far from the paradise they portray. The real answers to life's questions are not in some



faddish therapy, SciFi religion, or 'knowing yourself.' They are only found in the One who claimed to be 'The Way, the Truth, and the Life,' Jesus Christ."

In addition to being unbiblical, Scientology also can be financially costly, Davis said. According to NAMB's 4Truth.net website, Scientology does not believe in a personal, omniscient, omnipresent God as do Christians.

"The Church of Scientology International has no clear defin-

ition of the nature or person of God," the website says. "References to a Supreme Being are rare in Scientology literature, calling it the 'eight dynamic' or 'infinity.' The Supreme Being is defined in vague, pantheistic terms as embracing the 'allness of all.'"

Editor's note: To read more about Scientology and how to witness to those within Scientology visit NAMB's website at <http://bit.ly/byaiXs>.



THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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VOL. 134

No. 30



YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Missions leader Willis, 76, loses battle with leukemia

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Avery T. Willis Jr., creator of the MasterLife discipleship series and former mission board executive, died July 30 after a seven-month battle with leukemia. He was 76.

The retired senior vice president of the International Mission Board was known for his passion for missions, discipleship, and making the Gospel known to "oral learners." Friends regard Willis as a man committed to the Lord's work — 14 years of mission work in Indonesia with the Foreign (now International) Mission Board, later stepping into the role of senior vice president for overseas operations in 1993.

He wrote and contributed to numerous books and materials, including the MasterLife discipleship series and Biblical Basis of Missions.

Willis was a key proponent of Bible storying — orally telling stories from the Bible as a method of discipleship and a simple, effective way to communicate the truths in the Bible.

"His passion for engaging unreached people groups led in directing orality strategies among multiple mission agencies," said Jerry Rankin, retiring IMB president and a Mississippi native.

"It would be impossible to

comprehend, this side of heaven, the extent of global evangelization that will continue to sweep the world because of

Avery's witness, leadership and influence among Southern Baptists, national Baptists conventions around the world and other Great Commission partners.

"His walk with the Lord was authentic," Rankin added. "His faith was contagious. His vision unlimited. To participate in a planning or strategy session with Avery was to be challenged beyond the ordinary and to catch a vision of possibilities characterized by the power and providence of God."

Willis was born on Feb. 21, 1934, in Lepanto, Ar. He received a bachelor of arts degree from Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee and master of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth.

Willis served as pastor of Center Point Church in Wilburton, Ok., from 1954-56; Sunset Heights Church in Fort Worth from 1957-60; and Inglewood Church in Grand Prairie, Texas, from 1960-64.

Following his years as a pastor, he and his wife were appointed as missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board,

serving with their children in Indonesia from 1964-78.

Willis devoted the first six years of his mission service to evangelism and church planting. He spent the next eight years with the Indonesia Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a professor at the seminary for two years and its president for six years, during which time he wrote the MasterLife series of discipleship handbooks that eventually were translated into more than 50 languages and used in more than 100 countries.

After missionary service in Indonesia, Willis served for 15 years with the Baptist Sunday School Board (now LifeWay Christian Resources) in the adult discipleship department.

Willis returned to the IMB in a vice presidential role in 1993 and retired in 2004. At the Amsterdam 2000 conference on evangelism, Willis realized the

need for discipleship materials for oral learners. Seventy percent of unreached people groups are functionally illiterate, and the majority of people in the world either cannot or will not read.

Willis worked with eight Bible storytellers to develop audio recordings of 400 Bible stories.

In 2004, Willis helped organize the International Orality Network, which focuses on oral learners. He also helped develop a Bible storying-based discipleship program for American churches that has been piloted by Real Life Ministries in Idaho.

In lieu of flowers, Willis had requested that donations be made to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions or the International Orality Network.

He leaves behind his wife Shirley, five grown children, 15 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Looking back

10 years ago

According to a recent survey, the average full-time Southern Baptist pastor in the SBC earns \$39,187 a year in salary and housing allowance, plus benefits and expenses equaling a total compensation package of \$51,187.

20 years ago

First Church, Jackson, dedicates its new \$2 million organ with a special concert by organist Diane Bish. The organ, one of the largest in the U.S., has five keyboards, 231 ranks, and 12,877 pipes — some of which are so large that openings had to be cut into the ceiling during installation.

50 years ago

Mississippi Baptists dedicate their new assembly facility at Pass Christian on July 22. Announcement is made during the service that the \$100,000 special offering for Gulfshore had been met.



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Our other summer missionaries

Mississippi Baptists have been all over the globe this summer, spreading the Gospel and displaying their willingness to follow the Lord's lead in their lives while cementing their commitment to important Kingdom work. There's a unique group of summer missionaries within the larger group, however, who often get overlooked and who also deserve our prayers and recognition for their Kingdom service.

The young men and women who staff our Mississippi Baptist camps for the summer season are just as important as the other summer missionaries we commission to far-away lands. Their mission is the same: to lead people to a saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and ensure that their feet are placed on a lifetime path of discipleship and Christian service.

"We couldn't manage a program of this size without a top-notch staff," says Central Hills Retreat Manager Jim Ray. "A lot of people think this is a good place to get a taste of ministry, but it's not for starters. We have a lot of fun, but it's busy and it's intense."

"I look for staffers who have solid records of participation in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Baptist Student Union, and similar commitments. That tells me a lot about their knowledge of Scripture and doctrine, and their spiritual commitment," he says.

They'll need it. Camp work is not for the faint of heart. It gets hot and hectic at Mississippi Baptists' encampments — Central Hills in the woods outside Kosciusko, and Camp Garaywa in the woods of Clinton.

"Look at it this way," Ray points out, "at Central Hills, six-and-a-half acres of grass have to be cut for each profession of faith we are expecting this summer. Seventeen toilets have to



and many asked to come back for a second shift of heavy labor.

That's typical for Mississippi Baptist summer staffers. From the ranks of these staffers will come many of our future Mississippi Baptist leaders. Ray is himself a four-summer Central Hills staffer.

Their efforts will not be in vain, as the Lord will raise up many leaders from the ranks of the campers influenced by these Godly summer staffers. Morris Chapman, retired former president of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee in Nashville and a native of Kosciusko, points to his days as a youngster at Camp Garaywa as some of the most influential times he experienced in his spiritual development and a key factor in his subsequent decision to answer the Lord's call into full-time ministry.

Chapman's story is only one among many — surely numbering in the thousands since Mississippi Baptists began their camping program in 1947. Like our other summer missionaries, we need to be praying for these faithful young men and women as they work at our encampments and prepare both themselves and others for lifetimes of Christian ministry.

To God be the glory for all they accomplish in His name!

be scrubbed for every profession of faith we are expecting this summer. A lot of the jobs our staffers do are not glamorous, but they have to be done.

"Staffers have to have a heart for missions. That's critical to everything we do."

They have to have a heart for missions, and they have to be motivated. The same holds true for Mississippi Baptists' other encampments.

For most of this summer, a rotating group of Central Hills staffers have arisen at dawn and driven to the Baptist Building in Jackson to help the Mississippi Convention Board staff with a large, unconventional project that's included a lot of back-breaking work in sweltering heat and more than a few busted knuckles. None have complained,

The president was right. "Whatever we once were, we're no longer a Christian nation," then-presidential candidate Barack Obama said during a June 2007 speech. "At least not just. We are also a Jewish nation, a Muslim nation, and a Buddhist nation, and a Hindu nation, and a nation of nonbelievers."

That statement stirred a great deal of dust in Christian communities across the land but regardless of a politician's intent in a campaign speech or how strongly the notion may have been rejected among persons of faith, the simple truth is his words were correct.

According to data developed by the Barna research group through 2009, only 50% of American adults think that Christianity is still the "automatic faith of choice" in the U.S.

A majority of self-identified Christians surveyed indicated comfort with the idea that the Bible and sacred books from non-Christian religions all teach the same truths and principles. Seventy-one percent of respondents said they will develop their own religious beliefs rather than accept the set of beliefs promoted by a church or denomination. Only one third believe in absolute truth.

GUEST OPINION:



Is it too late?

By Mark Foley, president
University of Mobile

If the term is biblically defined, then no, America is no longer a Christian nation.

The critical question is, "What now?" Can America experience a restoration of Christian faith and character to such an extent as to transform the nation? Absolutely — if it is approached on God's terms.

His terms have already been stated in 2 Chronicles 7:14. "[If] ... My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

That statement was delivered to Solomon by God upon completion and dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem and was in response to a rehearsal of tragic national consequences resulting from human arrogance and dis-

obedience in the nation of Israel.

The promise was made to Israel. In the case of Israel, the nation and the people "called by God's name" are one and the same. Such is not so in any other nation, including America. However, I believe the promise may be applied to the people in America who are called by God's name — the Church of Jesus Christ.

The possibility of national transformation lies not with patriotic fervor for the American state and its culture, but with the influence of Christ's church upon that culture. The weak link in the transformation of a nation is the individual Christian's fulfillment of responsibility.

God is faithful. He will take care of His part, so let's take a look at our part of the deal: Humble self. Pray. Seek God. Turn from sin.

Consider the first responsibility — humility. Praying, seeking God, and turning from sin follow rather smoothly if we get a grip on humbling self, but, there's the rub. What we are talking about is total unconditional surrender of one's self to the rule of God.

Surrender and the humiliation of one's self is more than simply an unpleasant thought. It is contrary to every trace of human nature, American spirit, and sense of rightness within us. Yet that is the requirement of God.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might" (Deuteronomy 6:5; repeated by Jesus in Matthew 22:37). That word "all" is the catch. It speaks of the entirety of one's being with no hedge.

Christian, you say you want to see a spiritually transformed nation. Here's the A plan: Stop praying for revival, restoration, transformation, or any other of the "church club" words we use so easily. Start praying for brokenness — not of all those others, but of yourself. Ask God to teach you about surrender and humiliation and the rule of God in you. There is no plan B.

The University of Mobile is affiliated with the Alabama Baptist State Convention. Foley's commentary appears courtesy of Baptist Press.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

August 5, 2010

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

BSU WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULES

All Events are at the BSU CENTERS unless otherwise noted.

BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Noonday – Mon & Thurs 1:00 p.m., Devotions
Prime Time – Mon or Tues every other week,
6:30 p.m., Worship

CO-LIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Praise/Worship – Mon, 6:15 p.m.
Dorm Bible Study – Tues, 8:00 p.m.
Chapel – Wed, 11:00 a.m.
Nursing Home Ministry – Thurs, 2:00 p.m.

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Focus – Mon, 6:30 p.m., Worship/Bible Study
Bible Study/Lunch – Wed, noon

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship – Mon, 8:31 p.m.
Bible Study in Dorms – Tues evenings
Lunch & Devotion – Wed, noon

GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JEFF DAVIS CAMPUS
FLOW – Wed, noon, Lunch Program

JACKSON COUNTY CAMPUS

Monday Night Worship – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday Free Lunch – noon
Wednesday Free Lunch – noon

PERKINSTON CAMPUS

Worship/Fellowship – Tues, 7:00 p.m.

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RAYMOND CAMPUS

Worship – Tues, 7:00 p.m.
Lunch – Thurs, 12:30 p.m.
Small Group Bible Study – Thurs, TBA

HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GOODMAN CAMPUS

Worship & Bible Study – Tues, 6:00 p.m.
Lunch & Devotion – Thurs, 11:00 a.m.

HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GRENADA CAMPUS

Lunch & Devotion – Thurs, 12:15 p.m.

ITAWAMBA

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Luncheon – Wed, 12:07 p.m.
Worship – Wed, 7:07 p.m.

JONES COUNTY

JUNIOR COLLEGE

Worship – Tues, 6:30 p.m.
Noonday Lunch – Wed, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Food, Fellowship & Devotion – Wed,
11:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Campus Chapel
The Gathering (Worship) – First Tues of Month,
7:00 p.m., Campus Chapel

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

Worship & Fellowship – Mon, 6:30 p.m., FBC,
Chapel
Apartment Ministry – Mon, Tues & Wed,
3:30 p.m., meet at BSU office
Focus Groups/Bible Study – Tues & Thurs, TBA
Campus Prayer – Thurs, 7:00 a.m., BSU Office
Nursing Home Ministry – Thurs, 5:30 p.m.,
meet at BSU Office
Web site: www.mc.edu/campuslife/bsu

NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship & Bible Study – Tues, 7:00 p.m.,
Lunch & Bible Study – Wed, noon,
DeSoto Center
Dorm Bible Studies – Wed, nights, TBA

PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship – Mon, 6:33 p.m.
Bible Study Groups – Tues, Time TBA
Lunch Encounter – Wed, noon, Hattiesburg
Campus
Lunch Encounter – Thurs, 11:00 a.m.
"IGNITION" – Weekly Prayer Group, Thurs,
9:00 p.m.

SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Lunch & Devotion – Mon, 11:45 a.m.
The Shed – Bible Study – Mon, 7:00 p.m.



MISSISSIPPI DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship & Fellowship – Mon, 7:00 p.m.
Dorm Bible Study – Tues, 9:00 p.m.
Noonday Lunch & Devotion – Wed, noon

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Priority – Tues, 6:15 p.m., Praise & Worship
Noonday Lunch – Wed, noon, lunch and Bible
Study
Web site: www.msbsu.com

MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

Bible Study – Mon, 6 p.m.
Lunch & Bible Study – Wed, noon

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship Service – Tues, 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study Luncheon – Thurs, 10:40 a.m.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

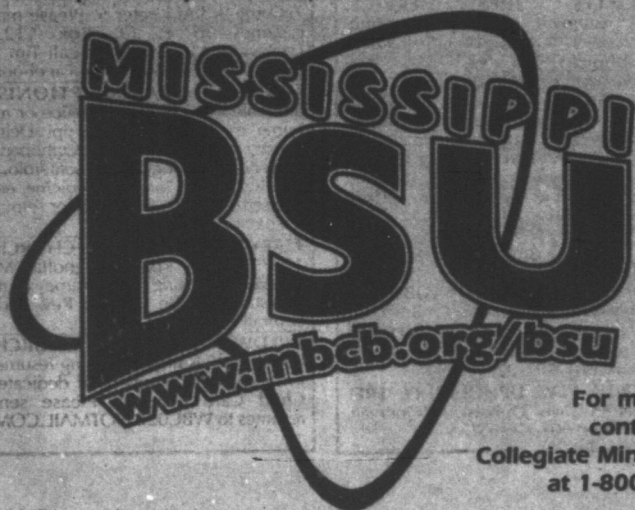
Main Event – Worship – Tues, 7:00 p.m.
Lunch Encounter – Wed, noon
Fresh Start – Freshmen & Transfers, Thurs,
7:00 p.m.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Coffeetalk – Outreach to Internationals
Mon, 8:00 p.m.
6:01 p.m. – Tues, Praise, Worship & Bible Study
12:01 p.m. Thurs, Lunch/Devotion
Web site: www.usm.edu/bsu

WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY

Campus LINK – Mon, 8:45 p.m., Student
Conference Center
Priority Lunch – Thurs, noon, Student
Conference Center
Prayer Breakfast – Fri, 9:25 a.m., BSU Center



For more info:
contact the
Collegiate Ministry Department
at 1-800-748-1651

Baptist Student Union is the Mississippi Baptist ministry to
our college campuses provided by your Cooperative Program gifts.

BIBLIOCIPHER

By Charles Marx, 1932 - 2004
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BGNP TODL EA DAB,
NTB LR POFF BGNP
TODL EA UAS, HFRN-
TXR UASG LNTBX, UR
XOTTRGX; NTB YSGOCU
UASG LRNGEX, UR
BASKFR WOTBRB.
VNWRX CASG: RODLE

Clue: T = N

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: John Twelve: Twenty-four

MEASURE TWICE/CUT ONCE

The title of this Directions is actually an old carpenter's adage, measure twice/cut once. I can remember hearing it first when I was just a youngster and my granddaddy, who was not a skilled carpenter but was a handyman around the house and could do odd jobs, was about to cut a piece of wood. He was measuring it to fit exactly where he was going to nail it. He told me this old bit of wisdom from a carpenter as he measured and then checked it a second time — measure twice/cut once. As you play out that thought, it is filled with so much counsel because you can cut too quickly. The wrong cut can ruin the whole piece of wood and you will be in a mess.

When it comes to a church making a decision to cut Cooperative Program support, wisdom and maybe even spiritual insights would indicate that instructions from a carpenter would be in order. Measure twice/cut once. Just for the sake of the thought process, it might be good to measure a number of things before you cut. You may even want to name these the Top Ten Reasons why you need to be careful in cutting the Cooperative Program.

Number 10

Statewide Bible Drills

Do you realize that thousands of children in Mississippi participate every year in learning not only to quote verses but also to find verses in the Bible? The tools that are necessary for Christian growth and biblical understanding are being put into their hands. All across our state there is the preparation, the participation, and the celebration that takes place because thousands of them are learning the Bible. While hundreds of our churches participate in Bible Drill activities, you may not be aware that Mississippi by far has the most extensive Bible Drill participation and leads the Southern Baptist Convention in this work of equipping young people. Thanks be to God and remember it would not be possible without the Cooperative Program.

Number 9

The Baptist Children's Village

This extensive caring organization provides help and ministry for about 300 children each year. Your ongoing Cooperative Program gifts week after week provide stability for this work.

Number 8

Collegiate Ministries

The Cooperative Program is the strongest lifeline in providing Christian Higher Education and Ministerial Aid



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

for those preparing for service in our churches. The tremendous work done by our schools and our BSUs in campus ministry in over 30 locations across our state would not be possible without your faithfulness in giving through the Cooperative Program.

Number 7

The Christian Action Commission

Throughout the year, in ways that you occasionally see but more often are not aware of, moral and ethical issues are being addressed, legislative positions are being challenged or encouraged, and opportunities for you to have your voice heard from a biblical standpoint takes place because of the Cooperative Program.

Number 6

Camps and Conferences

While we have two camp and conference centers at Garaywa and Central Hills, other camps are also taking place at venues at colleges and other centers. All of them are designed to bring people to the Lord and to sustain and strengthen them in their walk with the Lord. The camps operate all year long with the peak season, of course, being in the summer. As a result, every year hundreds of people come to know the Lord while thousands are blessed. This marvelous and extensive work would be impossible without the foundational support of the Cooperative Program.

Number 5

The Mississippi Baptist Foundation

While the oversight of funds at the Mississippi Baptist Foundation helps all of our institutions and agencies, one of the most significant and personal helps they provide comes in the form of about 350 scholarships, which are given annually.

Number 4

Our Church-Minister Relations Department

This department works with hundreds of churches each year and literally thousands of ministers and staff as they seek God's guidance in finding a pastor, a staff member, or a place of service. They deal with churches that may be having conflict or struggles with various issues or maybe it is church health that needs to be addressed. All of this is provided because you care.

Number 3

Mission Mobilization

Mississippi Baptists are on the move going not only across the street but also across the nation and the world on mission for Jesus. While a great deal of help in this area comes from the State Mission Offering, none of the support would be in place if it were not for the Cooperative Program. So when you hear that mission teams have gone to over half of the states across our nation and to some 65 countries around the world to serve our Lord,

you have been a part of it because of your support.

Number 2

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Of all of the things that we do in our churches, seeking to reach people for Christ none is more pointedly effective evangelistically than Vacation Bible School. Thousands of children are brought together day after day to hear the message of Jesus and to share in the warmth and love of caring instructors. Hundreds of them give their heart to Jesus. All across our state every year great plans are made and training offered so that teachers will be at their best at Vacation Bible School. All of this getting ready so that we can celebrate is provided with your Cooperative Program support.

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Before you cut once, measure twice — for it is your dollars, your weekly support that makes it possible for over 4500 missionaries with the North American Mission Board to serve here in our land and over 5,600 missionaries to be on the field around the world with the International Mission Board. What is the result of their efforts, or more significantly your efforts? Keep this in mind: they are there because you are there for them to be there and on average every day about 2,000 people come to know Jesus.

As you prepare your budget for next year, look to the Lord. We all understand the difficulties of these economic times, but before you cut once, measure twice.

The author can be contacted at jfutral@mbcb.org.

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THE WAY COMMUNITY CHURCH of Winston County is seeking a Bi-vocational Pastor for a contemporary style of worship. The qualified candidate will meet the requirements of 1 Timothy 3 and 1 Peter 5. Please mail resumes to P. O. Box 1123, Louisville, MS, 39339 or call/Tim at 662-803-9574. Visit us on Facebook.

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST available to work in your office or my home in the Mid-Mississippi Delta. Twenty years experience in Orthopedic Surgery, Neurology, Gastroenterology, Family Practice, Internal Medicine, etc. Please call 662-335-2862 or e-mail Wcbs@tccinfo.com.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE, CONDOMINIUM, FT. Walton Beach, Florida, Gulf Front, very nice furnished two bedroom, one bath. Lots of amenities. \$219,000. Call 770-831-3651. God Bless.

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HEIDELBERG STAINED GLASS, Meridian. Design, fabrication, repair. Fax illustrations to 601-483-7958 or call 800-368-2705.

GATLINBURG CONDO FOR RENT: 2 bd/2ba, full kitchen, walk to pkwy. \$70/night. 832-922-0401/pdw4760@att.net

NORRIS BOOKBINDING COMPANY, Inc., old Bibles rebound. Also, church bulletins and hymnals. For more information call 662-453-7424 or fax us at 662-453-6743.

BETSYSLILCABIN@YAHOO.COM at Lake Lincoln. \$250.00 weekly, \$60.00 nightly. 601-643-8817 or 601-940-6841.

SEBREN'S SIDING, JACKSON, Christian owned. All home improvements, vinyl siding, windows, metal and shingle roofs, patio covers, screen and glass rooms. 601-992-2092, Don & Rita Sebrén, owners.

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CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY, FREE estimates. Davis Upholstery, Qulman, Miss., phone 601-776-6617.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

August 5, 2010

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

BSU WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULES

All Events are at the BSU CENTERS unless otherwise noted.

BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Noonday – Mon & Thurs, 1:00 p.m., Devotions
Prime Time – Mon or Tues every other week,
6:30 p.m., Worship

CO-LIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Praise/Worship – Mon, 6:15 p.m.
Dorm Bible Study – Tues, 8:00 p.m.
Chapel – Wed, 11:00 a.m.
Nursing Home Ministry – Thurs, 2:00 p.m.

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Focus – Mon, 6:30 p.m., Worship/Bible Study
Bible Study/Lunch – Wed, noon

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship – Mon, 8:31 p.m.
Bible Study in Dorms – Tues evenings
Lunch & Devotion – Wed, noon

GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JEFF DAVIS CAMPUS
FLOW – Wed, noon, Lunch Program

JACKSON COUNTY CAMPUS

Monday Night Worship – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday Free Lunch – noon
Wednesday Free Lunch – noon

PERKINSTON CAMPUS

Worship/Fellowship – Tues, 7:00 p.m.

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE RAYMOND CAMPUS

Worship – Tues, 7:00 p.m.
Lunch – Thurs, 12:30 p.m.
Small Group Bible Study – Thurs, TBA

HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE GOODMAN CAMPUS

Worship & Bible Study – Tues, 6:00 p.m.
Lunch & Devotion – Thurs, 11:00 a.m.

HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRENADA CAMPUS

Lunch & Devotion – Thurs, 12:15 p.m.

ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Luncheon – Wed, 12:07 p.m.
Worship – Wed, 7:07 p.m.

JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE

Worship – Tues, 6:30 p.m.
Noonday Lunch – Wed, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Food, Fellowship & Devotion – Wed,
11:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Campus Chapel
The Gathering (Worship) – First Tues of Month,
7:00 p.m., Campus Chapel

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

Worship & Fellowship – Mon, 6:30 p.m., FBC,
Chapel
Apartment Ministry – Mon, Tues & Wed,
3:30 p.m., meet at BSU office
Focus Groups/Bible Study – Tues & Thurs, TBA
Campus Prayer – Thurs, 7:00 a.m., BSU Office
Nursing Home Ministry – Thurs, 5:30 p.m.,
meet at BSU Office
Web site: www.mc.edu/campuslife/bsu

NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship & Bible Study – Tues, 7:00 p.m.
Lunch & Bible Study – Wed, noon,
DeSoto Center
Dorm Bible Studies – Wed, nights, TBA

PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship – Mon, 6:33 p.m.
Bible Study Groups – Tues, Time TBA
Lunch Encounter – Wed, noon, Hattiesburg
Campus
Lunch Encounter – Thurs, 11:00 a.m.
"IGNITION" – Weekly Prayer Group, Thurs,
9:00 p.m.

SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Lunch & Devotion – Mon, 11:45 a.m.
The Shed – Bible Study – Mon, 7:00 p.m.



MISSISSIPPI DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship & Fellowship – Mon, 7:00 p.m.
Dorm Bible Study – Tues, 9:00 p.m.
Noonday Lunch & Devotion – Wed, noon

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Priority – Tues, 6:15 p.m., Praise & Worship
Noonday Lunch – Wed, noon, lunch and Bible
Study
Web site: www.msusbu.com

MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

Bible Study – Mon, 6 p.m.
Lunch & Bible Study – Wed, noon

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worship Service – Tues, 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study Luncheon – Thurs, 10:40 a.m.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

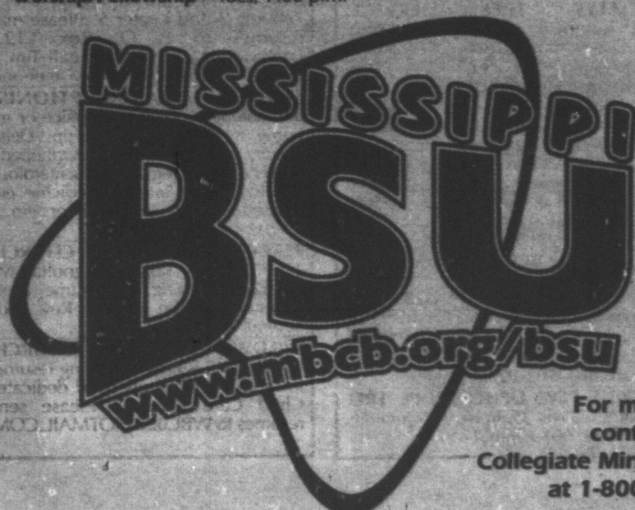
Main Event – Worship – Tues, 7:00 p.m.
Lunch Encounter – Wed, noon
Fresh Start – Freshmen & Transfers, Thurs,
7:00 p.m.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Coffeetalk – Outreach to Internationals
Mon, 8:00 p.m.
6:01 p.m. – Tues, Praise, Worship & Bible Study
12:01 p.m. Thurs, Lunch/Devotion
Web site: www.usm.edu/bsu

WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY

Campus LINK – Mon, 8:45 p.m., Student
Conference Center
Priority Lunch – Thurs, noon, Student
Conference Center
Prayer Breakfast – Fri, 9:25 a.m., BSU Center



For more info:
contact the
Collegiate Ministry Department
at 1-800-748-1651

Baptist Student Union is the Mississippi Baptist ministry to
our college campuses provided by your Cooperative Program gifts.

BIBLIOCIPHER

By Charles Marx, 1932 - 2004
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BGNP TODL EA DAB,
NTB LR POFF BGNP
TODL EA UAS, HFRN-
TXR UASG LNTBX, UR
XOTTRGX; NTB YSGOCU
UASG LRNGEX, UR
BASKFR WOTBRB.

VNWRX CASG: RODLE

Clue: T = N

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: John Twelve: Twenty-four

MEASURE TWICE/CUT ONCE

The title of this Directions is actually an old carpenter's adage, measure twice/cut once. I can remember hearing it first when I was just a youngster and my granddaddy, who was not a skilled carpenter but was a handyman around the house and could do odd jobs, was about to cut a piece of wood. He was measuring it to fit exactly where he was going to nail it. He told me this old bit of wisdom from a carpenter as he measured and then checked it a second time — measure twice/cut once. As you play out that thought, it is filled with so much counsel because you can cut too quickly. The wrong cut can ruin the whole piece of wood and you will be in a mess.

When it comes to a church making a decision to cut Cooperative Program support, wisdom and maybe even spiritual insights would indicate that instructions from a carpenter would be in order. Measure twice/cut once. Just for the sake of the thought process, it might be good to measure a number of things before you cut. You may even want to name these the Top Ten Reasons why you need to be careful in cutting the Cooperative Program.

Number 10
Statewide Bible Drills
Do you realize that thousands of children in Mississippi participate every year in learning not only to quote verses but also to find verses in the Bible? The tools that are necessary for Christian growth and biblical understanding are being put into their hands. All across our state there is the preparation, the participation, and the celebration that takes place because thousands of them are learning the Bible. While hundreds of our churches participate in Bible Drill activities, you may not be aware that Mississippi by far has the most extensive Bible Drill participation and leads the Southern Baptist Convention in this work of equipping young people. Thanks be to God and remember it would not be possible without the Cooperative Program.

Number 9
The Baptist Children's Village
This extensive caring organization provides help and ministry for about 300 children each year. Your ongoing Cooperative Program gifts week after week provide stability for this work.

Number 8
Collegiate Ministries
The Cooperative Program is the strongest lifeline in providing Christian Higher Education and Ministerial Aid



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

for those preparing for service in our churches. The tremendous work done by our schools and our BSUs in campus ministry in over 30 locations across our state would not be possible without your faithfulness in giving through the Cooperative Program.

Number 7
The Christian Action Commission
Throughout the year, in ways that you occasionally see but more often are not aware of, moral and ethical issues are being addressed, legislative positions are being challenged or encouraged, and opportunities for you to have your voice heard from a biblical standpoint takes place because of the Cooperative Program.

Number 6
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Ask us about 7.5% Guaranteed Income Growth Rider

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Ridgeland, MS 39157

Mississippi Missionary Parents Fellowship

15th Anniversary Celebration

September 17-18, 2010, Garaywa



Glorifying God as we partner in His mission through connecting, caring and communicating.

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (HCBS)

SPECIAL GUESTS

- **Jerry and Bobbie Rankin**, Past IMB President and Mississippi Missionary Parents (Friday only)
- **Terri Willis, Director**, National Relations Office, IMB
- **Jeff Whitfield**, Consultant in Member Care, IMB
- Our own **Mississippi Missionary Children** and their families
- Members of our Fellowship from times past

For more info, contact Lisa Miller, WMU, 601-968-3800, ext. 317, or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 317, or lmiller@mbcb.org

RAY DAY 2010

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE • CLINTON • OCTOBER 30, 2010

MISSIONARIES FOOTBALL GAME MUSIC

IN OUR SHOES:

The Real Issues Ministers' Wives Face in Today's World

MINISTERS' WIVES CONFERENCE

Monday, October 25, 2010, FBC Chapel, Jackson

1:15 - 4:30 p.m.

Speaker: Rachel Lovingood
Women's Ministry trainer, LifeWay

For more info, contact Kay McDonnell at 800.748.1651, ext. 305, 601.292.3305, or E-mail kmcdonnell@mbcb.org

JANUARY BIBLE STUDY

Studies in **GALATIANS**

TRUTH GRACE

September 20
Blue Mountain College
Blue Mountain, Miss.

September 21
FBC, Cleveland
Cleveland, Miss.

September 22
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board
Jackson, Miss.

September 23
William Carey University
Hattiesburg, Miss.

Teaching: Alan Woodward
Director, Pastor/Leadership Development Department
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

For more information contact
Kely Young at kyoung@mbcb.org or
Lee Ann Boykin at lboykin@mbcb.org
or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 292, or 601-292-3292

All Conferences:
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Conference: 9:00 a.m. - noon

- Lunch NOT provided
- No cost
- Please preregister

MBCB BIVO COUNCIL

Monday, October 25, 2010, 3 p.m.

Sky Room, 4th floor, Baptist Building

BIVO Banquet & Dialogue

"What's Happening in Your Life, Your Family and Your Church?"

Monday, October 25, 2010, 5 p.m.

Sky Room, 4th floor, Baptist Building

For all Mississippi bivocational/small church **MINISTERS AND THEIR WIVES**

We will break at 6:30 to attend the Pastors Conference at FBC, Jackson

Please E-mail or call Kay McDonnell (kmcdonnell@mbcb.org or 601.292.3305; 1.800.748.1651, ext. 305) to confirm your attendance.

There is no cost for the meal. This event is underwritten by the Pastor/Leadership Development Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

SEMINARY EXTENSION BREAKFAST

for Seminary Extension and Associational Missions Directors
Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 7 a.m. in the Baptist Building Chapel

Hosted by The Pastor/Leadership Development Department

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!!!

If you are already directing a center or if you are interested in starting a center in your association, please join us for a time of fellowship and sharing.

REMINDER

Professional Certification
for Ministry Assistants and
Ministry Office **Skillshops**
August 17-19, 2010
GARAYWA, CLINTON

QUESTIONS?
Kay McDonnell, 1-800-748-1651, Ext. 305, or 601-292-3305 or E-mail: mcdonnell@mbcb.org

"NEW" Pastor Workshop
August 30, 9 a.m.-noon
Calvary BC, Starkville

Argile Smith
Pastor, FBC, Biloxi

For pastors who are:

- "NEW" to the pastorate
- "NEW" to their church
- Looking for "NEW" ideas

THEME:
"Strengthening
Your Interpersonal
Relationship Skills"

Info? Contact Kay McDonnell at 601.292.3305 or kmcdonnell@mbcb.org

ADVANCE
COLLEGE STUDENT CONFERENCE 2010
SEPTEMBER 17-18
Ridgecrest Baptist Church
Madison

Contact Your ASU Director or Church Minister to Register
\$5 Registration Fee

SPEAKER
Michael Kelley
Nashville

MUSIC
Dave Hunt
Nashville

Sponsored by the Collegiate Ministry Department
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board
A Ministry of the Cooperative Program

FOR MORE INFORMATION and to REGISTER: Call the Collegiate
Ministry office at 800.748.1651 or 601.292.3299

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010

KIDS MINISTRY IN MOTION

August 21, Garaywa
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

AN EVENT FOR KIDS
AND THEIR LEADERS
(AGES 4TH-6TH GRADE)

Kids will participate in:

- Children's Music
- Bible Skills
- Missions Education
- Mission Project
- Small Group Bible Study
- Large Group worship

Leaders will also participate in
training sessions that will show
you how to take home
what you see at this event.

For more info, contact the Sunday School Department, 601-292-3294 or aboydstun@mbcb.org

Churches Practicing Redemption

Churches Practicing Redemption

Two Conference Dates & Locations:

September 14, 2010 from 2:30 - 8:00 PM
Poplar Springs Drive Baptist Church
4032 Poplar Springs Dr., Meridian, MS 39305

September 16, 2010 from 2:30 - 8:00 PM
First Baptist Church Gulfport
12190 Highway 605, Gulfport, MS 39505

**A Ministry Event to Equip
Pastors, Ministers, and Leaders with
resources to develop an effective
response to Homosexuality**

Sponsored by
Christian Action

www.ChristianAction.com

Music Leadership Training School sets enrollment

JACKSON, Ms. (Special) — August 16 begins the fifth of eight courses at seven locations in Mississippi sponsored by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, in cooperation with the Providence Learning Center of New Orleans Seminary.

These courses are designed to provide basic training for bivocational music directors and other music leaders in churches. The fifth course, Hymnology, will meet once a week for two hours for eight consecutive weeks at the following locations and times:

- First Church, Booneville — begin-

ning August 17 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). LuAnne Ford, teacher, (662) 728-6272.

- First Church, Cleveland — beginning August 17 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). Alan Berry, teacher, (662) 843-2701.

- Broadmoor Church, Madison — beginning August 16 (6-8 p.m.). Jimmy McCaleb, teacher, (601) 924-1233.

- Northcrest Church, Meridian — beginning August 16 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). Buddy McElroy, teacher, (601) 938-8668.

- Easthaven Church, Brookhaven — beginning August 16 (7-9 p.m.). Mark Hamilton, teacher, (601) 894-5848.

- First Church, Lyman — beginning

August 17 (7-9 p.m.). Louis White, teacher, (228) 832-2159.

- First Church, Starkville — beginning August 16 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). Tom Jenkins, teacher, (662) 323-5633.

The eight courses are Song Leading; Worship Planning; Reading Music: Rhythm/Pitch; Reading Music: Harmony/Melody; Hymnology; Music Administration/Staff Relations; Survey of Church Music Resources; and Class Voice.

The cycle of courses is scheduled over a two-year period. Each course is independent and has no prerequisite. Each student who completes the eight

courses earns a certificate from the Providence Learning Center of New Orleans Seminary.

There is a one-time enrollment fee of \$25.00. The cost of each course is \$125.00. A \$60.00 scholarship is available for all first-time students. Students already enrolled are not eligible. The grant is limited to one person per church.

For more information, contact the teachers listed above, or Jimmy McCaleb at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3273 or toll free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 273. E-mail: mcaleb@cabinview.net.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



3. Unity Church, Moselle



4. Grace United Church, Decatur



5. Newhebron Church, Newhebron

1. Goss Church, Columbia: Enrollment, 224; average attendance, 169; nine professions of faith; Baptist Children's Village offering, \$482.97.

2. Midway Church, Leake County: July 17; nineteen children and youth and 19 adults.

3. Unity Church, Moselle: July 7 - 10. Shown are the Pre-K - 6th grade age groups.

4. Grace United Church, Decatur: June 20 - 23; average attendance, 45. Shown are the participants.

5. Newhebron Church, Newhebron: July 12 - 16; average attendance, 77; offering, \$952; two decisions for Christ. Shown are the participants.

6. Zion Church, Pontotoc: July 16 and 17; shown are the participants.

7. Calvary Church, Columbia: June 27 - July 1; total enrollment, 183; average attendance, 171; one profession of faith. Shown are the participants.

8. Strayhorn Church, Sarah: June 7 - 11; shown are the participants.

9. Pleasant Hill Church, Tippah County: July 11 - 18; average attendance, 40 children; shown are the participants.



6. Zion Church, Pontotoc



7. Calvary Church, Columbia



8. Strayhorn Church, Sarah



9. Pleasant Hill Church, Tippah County

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August 6 - 19, 2010

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Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:6-7

* Graduate, Josie H., requests prayer that she would earnestly seek and surrender to the will of God; that she would give up her fear of doing things out of her comfort zone; and that she would have a good roommate and encouraging Christian friends.

* Graduate, Adrian P., requests prayer for God's wisdom in decision making for his transition into America and college; strength to deal with the practical details of life; and that his relationship with the Lord will grow strong.

Pray for the Sunday School Regional Training in Greenwood.

* Graduate, Hannah H., requests prayer that she could find a low stress job; that she would have clear direction on a major; find Christian friends; and be a shining light to all.

* Graduate, Tyler S., requests prayer for a smooth transition into college and a great freshman year; that he will adjust to being far away from home; and that he will remain close to God.

* Graduate, Jeff L., requests prayer that he will have a good transition into college life; that he will have the wisdom to make right choices; and that he will be blessed with great friends.

Pray for the Professional Certification and Skillshops for Ministry Assistants, Garaywa.

* High school senior, Jacob B., requests prayer that he will find the career path that God wants him to follow; and that he will find the right college to attend.

* Graduate, Zachery M., requests prayer that he will listen to God's leading in his life; that he will transition to college well; and that he will be steadfast in the faith, following God and living in a way that pleases Him, keeping his mind and thoughts pure.

* High school senior, Ruth B., requests prayer that she will look to God in everything and let him be her anchor; that God will guide her in the college application process.

Pastor/Staff Connections (formerly New Staff Day).

* Graduate, RuthAnn O., requests prayer that God would show her His plan for her life; that she can still be in contact with her high school friends and continue to have a positive impact on them.

* High school senior, James C., requests prayer that he will know the plans God has for him in the upcoming year; that he will grow closer to God; and have a consistent relationship with Him as he prepares to return to America and be away from his parents.

* Graduate, Caleb C., requests prayer that God would give him a good Christian friend as he leaves home, as well as a church home where he can grow in his walk with Jesus.

* Graduate, Beverly D., requests prayer that God would provide roommates who will desire to seek a more personal relationship with the Lord. Pray that she will grow in her faith and be a good witness to her college roommates and classmates.

Pray for State Leadership Training for Churches, Central Hills.

* High school senior, Michal S., requests prayer that he will adjust to living in the states; settle on a major; and that his family will adjust to him being in college.

* Graduate, Luke P., requests prayer for his transition into college and the USA; that he will be responsible in college with his time and schoolwork; that he will continue to trust God; and that he will continue to grow in his relationship with God.

*** PLEASE NOTE:** This issue includes prayer requests from MKs who have just graduated from high school and are headed for college, or are in their senior year of high school. Some will be transitioning to another culture (like the USA) than what they are use to.

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REGISTER 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE AUDITION.

Thursday, September 16, 2010

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Saturday, September 18, 2010

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Emmanuel BC, Grenada

Sunday, September 19, 2010

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Longview Heights BC, Olive Branch

Thursday, September 23, 2010

4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

First BC, Meridian

Saturday, September 25, 2010

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

William Carey University, Hattiesburg

Sunday, September 26, 2010

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Grace Memorial BC, Gulfport

Thursday, October 14, 2010

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

First BC, Summit

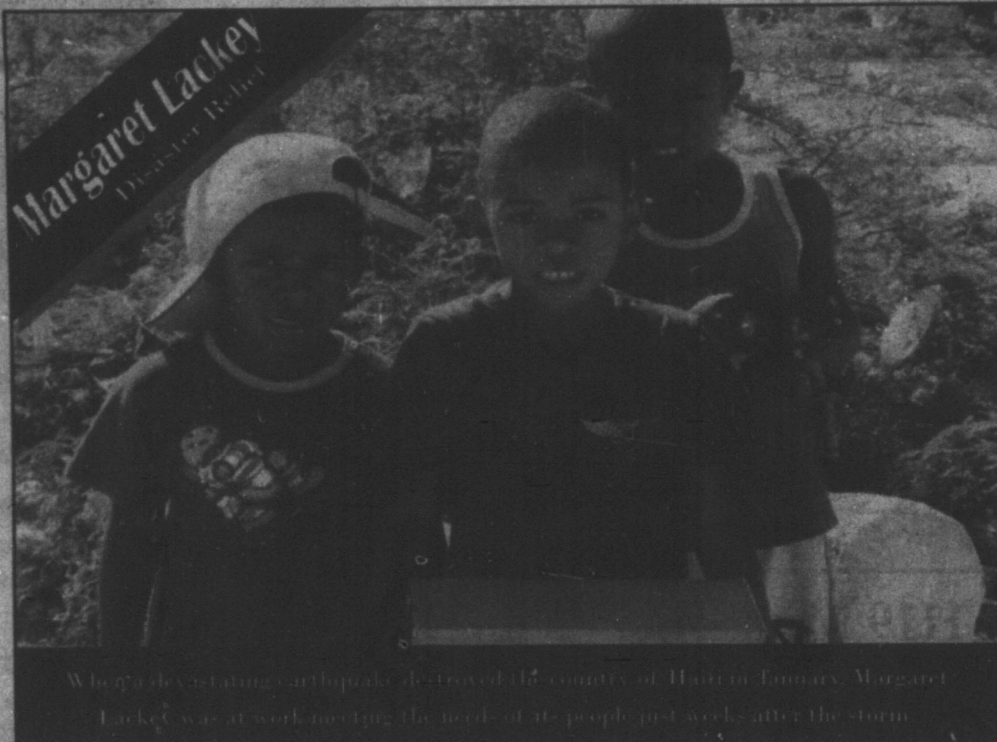
Sunday, November 7, 2010

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HOUSE TOPS

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

Focus on God's Purposes

2 Samuel 7:1-7, 11b-16, 18-21

By Tony Martin

Lack of direction. Purposelessness. A sense of "drift." These are all traits of many people in today's world, a sense of longing but not even being sure of what the longing is for. We are bombarded daily with competing agendas, from work, from home, from society itself. It is possible to be successful in the world's eyes, but frustrated and unfulfilled on the inside. For the Christian, the mandate is to recognize and focus on God's agenda. Is it possible to keep our lives focused on God's purpose, and not on selfish interests? David found that it was.

Good Intentions (2 Samuel 7:1-7)

David is at a place in his life in which he can take some rest from the enemies around him. As a man after God's own heart,

he wanted to serve the Lord. Earlier on, David had committed himself to building a temple for God. The ark is in Jerusalem. And now, he recognizes that he is living in a fine palace of stone and cedar, and the ark is in a tent.

So David seeks out Nathan. This is Nathan's first appearance in scripture, and a man who will figure prominently in David's life. David shares with Nathan his sense that it was time to do something concerning a place for the ark, and Nathan tells him, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you" (v. 3). It's interesting to note that Nathan gave approval to David's plans before even getting a definite word from the Lord. Perhaps he was encouraging David to follow his heart, and in the remainder of this passage

God affirms to Nathan what else he was to reveal to David.

Certainly we should always seek God's will before making plans or decisions that can impact our lives and the lives of others. Even good intentions can lead to wrong actions or assumptions — it is entirely possible to have pure motives and yet completely miss God's plans for us.

God's Intentions (2 Samuel 7:11b-16)

What an amazing promise from God — certainly not what David was expecting. In David's mind, the most important thing he could do for God would be to build a temple for Him. God confounds David's plans.

Instead of David building a house for God, God reveals that He will make a house for David. David, like all rulers, is concerned for the future of his kingdom, and God declares that "the Lord himself will establish a

house for you" (v. 11b). Through Nathan, God reveals that David's kingdom would culminate in the coming of the Messiah: "He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son" (v. 13). This passage also foreshadows Solomon's role in his father David's kingdom, with the building of the Temple itself, but the reign of the Messiah would go on forever. Imagine David's excitement when he learned that the Messiah would be known as the Son of David!

All decisions we make need to be evaluated to be sure that they align with God's perspective. God gives us all assignments, and the challenge for us is to be diligent in completing them according to His will for us. How do we know when we're missing the mark? Only by seeking His heart and His alone, laying aside any selfish notion of thinking we're in charge, and adjusting our lives to conform to His.

Humble Submission (2 Samuel 7:18-21)

How easily did humility come to David? In this final passage, we see David coming humbly before God and acknowledging His leadership. This is a terrific example for us to follow today.

In verse 18, David shows total amazement and submission. "Who am I, O Sovereign Lord, and what is my family that you have brought me this far?" David knew that any blessings that he would receive were out of God's grace and totally undeserved. Many times in 2 Samuel David identifies himself as the servant of God. As a servant, his attitude was that of one who waits for and acts on orders given.

As did David, we are to come before God in humility and gratefulness for all He has done for us. Submission may not come easily or naturally, but the blessings of obedience are ours as we follow Him.

Scripture verses are from NIV.

Martin is the Associate Editor of The Baptist Record.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Relationships: The Faithfulness Factor

2 Corinthians 3:1-5:10

By Laura Leathers

If you have ever worked as a bank teller invariably a counterfeit bill will be in your possession someday. Experienced tellers are able to spot the bill almost immediately because of the coloring or the texture of the bill — it is obvious. However many times the counterfeit bill slips through your fingers and is not "caught" until it is counted by a special machine which instantly reads and throws the bill out. Counterfeits are hard to detect.

A counterfeit gospel, a mixture of grace and law, had infiltrated the church in Corinth and throughout the Gentiles. William Barclay states this group was known as the Judaizers and they entered through falsifying their credentials. The book of Galatians is Paul's refute to their

doctrines. They taught "salvation was by faith in Christ plus the keeping of the law (see Acts 15:1ff).

They also taught that the believer is perfected in his faith by obeying the Law of Moses (Barclay). Paul needed no special credentials. His life and ministry were his recommendations.

Rely On God — 2 Cor. 3:1-6

These first six verses were Paul's defense to those who were scrutinizing his ability to be a minister of the gospel. In the first century church letters of introduction were often used as a means of authenticating a teacher. The use of the word commend means "to introduce." Was Paul going to have to introduce himself all over again? Certainly not! The Corinthian church was close to his heart. "Their changed lives were like an

open letter that could be seen and read by all men as a testimony to Paul's faithfulness and the truth of his message" (MacArthur Study Bible).

Paul's letter to the Corinthians was written with the ink of the Spirit of the living God and the message

Leathers

was written on the tablets of human hearts (new covenant) not on tablets of stone (old covenant). This is the adequacy from God — to rely upon His Spirit.

Stand By the Gospel 2 Cor. 4:1-5

"We have this ministry," wrote Paul, "A glorious ministry that brings men life, salvation, and righteousness; a ministry that is able to transform men's lives. This ministry is a gift — we receive it from God. It is given to us because of God's mercy, not because of anything we are or we have done" (see 1 Timothy 1:12-17) (Barclay).

Paul reminds his readers he did not preach anything but

"Christ Jesus as Lord." This entire section deals with the glory of God being shown in Jesus Christ — "the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." This is the Word and the Truth we are to stand upon.

Concentrate On the Eternal 2 Cor. 4:15-18

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us (Romans 8:18). Once again Paul emphasizes the "light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond comparison. "In the Old Testament we read ... so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God" (2 Chronicles 5:14). This helps us to get a picture of what God's glory is and what is to come (Ezekiel 43:1-5). How can I concentrate on the eternal? Paul tells us to look at the things not seen, look beyond the physical to the spiritual, and stay focused on His ministry and bringing Him glory.

Anticipate the Future 2 Cor. 5:9-10

Paul had worked endlessly through many sufferings and afflictions to share Christ with all he met. This was his ambition. The word "ambition" comes from a Greek word which means to "love what is honorable." Paul demonstrated that it is right and noble for the believer to strive for excellence, spiritual goals, and all that is honorable before God (MacArthur). Pleasing Him was Paul's highest goal and so it should be for every believer. Why? Because every person will appear before the judgment seat of Christ and give an account for what he has done, whether good or bad.

A love relationship with Jesus Christ — this is our ministry, our motivation to serve God faithfully every day. Do you want your life to be pleasing to Him? Then begin with relying upon Him, stand upon His Word, concentrate on what is eternal, and live anticipating the future!

Leathers is a member of First Church, Durant.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lit. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

THE BAPTIST
Record

COLLEGE NEWS

Approximately 432 students will receive degrees at William Carey University in one of four graduation ceremonies for undergraduate and graduate students for the three campuses of Hattiesburg, Biloxi, and New Orleans. The ceremony for students receiving graduate degrees on the Hattiesburg campus is Aug. 7 at 9:30 a.m. in Smith Auditorium. The speaker is Wayne Folkes, principal of Oak Grove High School. Undergraduate degrees will be awarded on the Hattiesburg campus Aug. 7 at 1 p.m. in Smith Auditorium. Allen Smithers, headmaster of Presbyterian Christian School in Hattiesburg, is

the speaker. The ceremony for Biloxi graduate and undergraduate students is Aug. 7 at 4 p.m. in Smith Auditorium. Jimmy Stewart, pastor of First Church, Gulfport, will be the speaker. The ceremony for students receiving degrees from the New Orleans campus is August 6 at 6 p.m. in Leavell Chapel at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Byron Harrell, president of the Baptist Community Ministries, the largest private foundation in the state of Louisiana, will serve as commencement speaker. For graduation information call the Office of the Registrar at (601) 318-6195.

REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. **Arkadelphia Church, Bailey:** Homecoming, Aug. 15; services, 11 a.m., followed by potluck meal; Jerry Bishop, speaker.
2. **Franklin Creek Church, Moss Point:** Homecoming, Aug. 15; services, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish meal and afternoon services; Tommy Green, speaker; Big Blessin Trio featuring Mitch Green, music; John Pemberton, pastor.
3. **Bunker Hill Church, Columbia:** Revival, Aug. 15 - 18; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Darrel Daniels, speaker; Tim Morrison, music.
4. **Fellowship Church, Ellisville:** Homecoming, Aug. 8; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; worship, 10 a.m.; worship; 11 a.m., praise and worship, followed by dinner on the grounds; Koby Easterling, speaker; Robert Bolling, music; Henry Freeman, pastor.
5. **First Church, Sardis:** Revival, Aug. 8 - 11; Performing Arts Presentation of the Gospel with James Burke; Sam Mulloy, music.
6. **New Home Church, Bay Springs:** Homecoming, Aug. 8; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch and gospel singing; Shane Singleton, pastor and speaker; Heavenly Highway and Maxine Davis, music.
7. **Cedar View Church, Olive Branch:** Homecoming, Aug. 15; Bible study, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by potluck lunch and music; Richard Hamlet, speaker; Bluff City Quartet, music.
8. **Center Ridge Church, Yazoo Association:** Homecoming, Aug. 8, 9:45 a.m., followed by covered dish dinner on the grounds; Jim Nunnelee, speaker; Thad Henry; Daryl Oster, pastor.
9. **Concord Church, Ackerman:** Homecoming and revival, Aug. 8 - 11; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch; Randy Bridges, speaker; Roger Griffith, pastor.
10. **Concord Church, Booneville:** Revival, Aug. 15 - 19; 7 p.m.; Sun., fellowship meal, 5:30 p.m.; Marvin Robbins, speaker; Robert E. Walker, pastor.
11. **Enterprise Church, Liberty:** Revival, Aug. 8 - 11; Sun., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch and 1:30 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Jim Futral, speaker; Ernest Whittington, pastor.

OBITUARY

Funeral services for George E. Lee were held July 28 in Columbia. Lee served churches in Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi. He served as Director of Missions in Lawrence, Marion, and Waltham Counties (Tri-County Baptist Missions) for 27 years before his retirement in 1990. Lee served in the Army Air Corps from 1942 - 45. He was 84 at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, four children, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

ISRAEL 2011

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JUST FOR THE RECORD

1. **Park Haven Church, Laurel,** is hosting a gospel sing featuring Hosanna Aug. 14, 7 p.m. A love offering will be received.
2. **Topisaw Church, Bogue Chitto,** is hosting a reception for pastor David Moree and family upon 20 years of service Aug. 14, 6:30 p.m.
3. **Prentiss Church, Prentiss,** ordained Harold Stamps as deacon. Shown are Bonnie Stamps, Stamps, and pastor Ben B. James, Jr.
4. **Ephesus Church, Forest,** recently held a baby/children dedication. Shown are the participants.

Q O O



3. Stamps ordination



4. Ephesus Church, Forest

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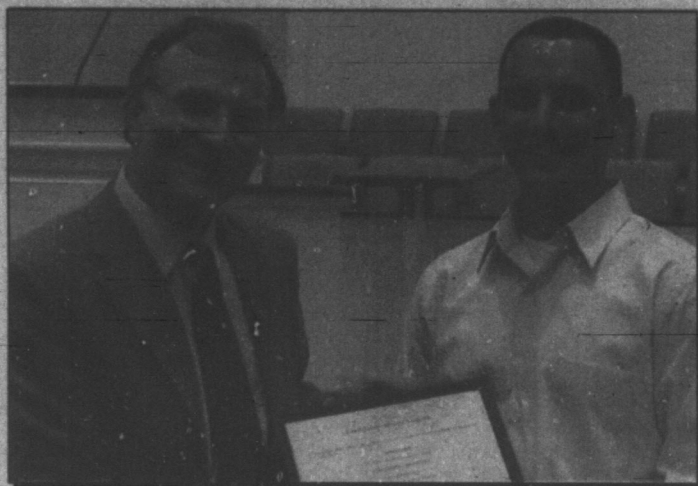
2. New Haven Church, Weir



3. River Bend Church, Aberdeen



4. North Columbia Church, Columbia



5. Davis and Clark

1. **Harrisburg Church, Tupelo**, is hosting Miss Patty Cake Live! Pajama party for preschoolers Aug. 12, 6:30 p.m. Advance tickets are \$10 or \$30/family; \$12 at the door. For information, call (662) 823-7110 or 823-7124, or visit www.harrisburgonline.org.

2. **New Haven Church, Weir**, ordained Thomas H. Carraway (second from left) to the Gospel ministry. Joining Carraway at his ordination were (from left) pastor Jim Ballard; Thomas Carraway; his wife Mae Helen Carraway; and Steve Jordan, pastor of Weir Church.

3. Roy McHenry (left) and Steve Taylor (2nd from left) of **River Bend Church, Aberdeen**, recently returned from a mission trip to Honduras. They worked with Gary and Peggy Williams who are members of River Bend.

4. The Women on Mission of **North Columbia Church, Columbia**, hosted their first GA Day themed God's Princesses. Girls from North Columbia and Emmanuel Church attended sessions of proper dress, manners, and like subjects that are characteristics of daughters of God. Shown are the participants.

5. **First Church, Sumrall**, ordained Douglas Clark to the ministry July 25. Shown are pastor Glenn Davis and Clark.

6. **Fellowship Church, Ellisville**, held a graduation ceremony for its graduates. Shown are Lindsley Abadie, Gaila Freeman, Laken Abadie, and pastor Henery Freeman.

7. **Calvary Church, Bogue Chitto**, had eight girls attending GA camp at Garaywa Camp and Conference Center. Shown, first row, are Summer Martin, Georganna Allen, Karly Leake, and Kara Beth Crosby; second row, Carrie Pyeatt, Kinley Douglas, Kacy Bui, and Alana Nettles.

8. **Roundaway Church, Doddsville**, held a men's cake bake contest June 27. Shown are Edgar Donahoe, Charlie Floyd, Bob Hill, William Hancock, Bobby Kirk, and Gabby Hayes.

9. **Mt. Moriah Church, Weir**, elected deacons. Shown are pastor Tim Garner, Rusty Bowman, Larry Martin, and Dewitt Cutts.



6. Fellowship Church, Ellisville



7. Calvary Church, Bogue Chitto



8. Roundaway Church, Doddsville



9. Mt. Moriah Church, Weir